

### A NEW FRACTURE CLAMP.

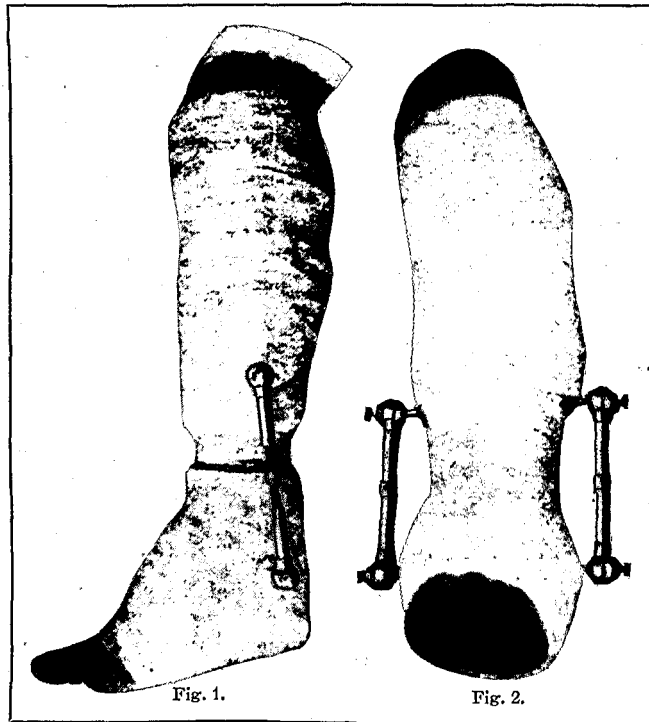
The clamp, illustrated on this page, which has been devised for Dr. Hackenburch, of Berlin, is described in *The Modern Hospital*, from which our illustration is also reproduced. It seems, our contemporary states, to offer some advantages in certain fracture cases in that it is easily adapted in complicated as well as simple fractures. Extensions can be made with comparative ease, and the claim is made that there is no likelihood of stiffening of the joints, muscular atrophy, nor hypostatic pneumonia.

The fracture clamp (always used in sets of two) consists of two fastening wings, imbedded one on either side of the fractured limb in a plaster of Paris bandage, and two sleeves forced apart by turning the expansion screw and serving to draw apart the bone fragments. The fastening wings are connected with sleeves by ball-and-socket joints, permitting movement of the fastening wings in all directions and fixation of same in any position by means of set screws. The arrangement permits of adjustment of the bone fragments with accuracy.

In case of a diagonal fracture of the tibia and fibula combined, with dislocation of their fragments, the fracture should be radiographed as soon as possible, and the clamp adapted in the following way:

The knee of the patient is brought into rectangular position and an elastic stocking placed over the leg from toes up to the knee. Bolsters consisting of pulverized rubber cushions are fastened by bandaging tightly under the patella and underneath the ankle. Above this is placed a very thick plaster of Paris bandage from the toes up to the knees. As soon as the bandage is hardened, the dressing is cut through in a circular way in the plane of the fracture, then both wings of the clamp are fastened by means of plaster of Paris bandages so that the expansion screws of both clamps are in about one plane with the circular slit of the bandage. The clamps now serve as supporting splints, the patient

remains in bed until the following day, when extension is commenced by turning the expansion screws, Fig. 1. After the bones are brought into a position, another plaster of Paris bandage is placed over the gap which has been formed in making the extension (Fig. 2), and, after hardening, the operation is completed. It is stated that in a case of fracture of the tibia or fibula the patient, with clamps in position, has no difficulty in walking from seven to eight days after the fracture is set.



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Professor Ehrlich, the discoverer of "606" (salvarsan) the specific which is being used in the treatment of venereal diseases, has expressed the opinion that the "splendid initiative" of Great

Britain recently announced in the appointment of a Royal Commission, will bear memorable fruit not only for the British nation, but for humanity as a whole. The National Council of Nurses may be proud that it boldly took the initiative, in so far as the nursing profession is concerned, in this matter, in 1909, when we were told of a medical woman in England whose wish to present a paper on this line before a medical society had been refused!

The Fifth Annual Report, price 3d., of the National Food Reform Association, 178, St.

Stephen's House, Westminster, contains a record of useful activities. These include the holding of the Second Guildhall School Conference on Diet, Cookery and Hygiene and the formation of a Joint Matrons and Schools Committee to improve the feeding in schools, hospitals and other institutions by the provision of trained dieticians and visiting advisers, thus opening up a new career to women.

Surgeon-General A. T. Sloggett, C.B., has been appointed Director-General, Army Medical Service, in succession to Surgeon-General Sir Launelotte Gubbins.

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